

Overdose and Infectious Disease Prevention Services Program / HB 396  
Official Testimony  
Position: **FAVORABLE**

To the House Health and Government Operations Committee,

My name is Michael Lent, and a Parkville resident and a member of the Greater Baltimore Democratic Socialist that is part of the Bridges Coalition. I support the HB 396 Overdose and Infectious Disease Prevention Services Program.

This would allow community-based organizations to establish OPS where people could use pre-purchased drugs in a supervised setting. The supervision provided at overdose prevention sites can dramatically reduce overdose fatality risk in Maryland and save scarce resources. 1,829 Marylanders lost their lives to overdoses in the first nine months of 2020. Overdose prevention sites could have saved them.

I respectfully urge this committee to issue a favorable report on HB 396, the Overdose and Infectious Disease Prevention Services Program.

Thank you for your time.

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